



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 7450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/660,296

09/10/2003

Catherine M. Keene

AGIL-00501

5469

7590

07/27/2006

David R. Stevens  
Stevens Law Group  
P.O. Box 1667  
San Jose, CA 95109

EXAMINER

PHAM, HUNG Q

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2168

DATE MAILED: 07/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/660,296

Applicant(s)

KEENE ET AL.

Examiner

HUNG Q. PHAM

Art Unit

2168

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 May 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 13-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 and 13-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Arguments***

- ***Drawings***

The drawings were received on 05/08/06. These drawings are acknowledged.

- ***Claim Objections***

Applicants' arguments with respect to the objection of claims 7 and 13-15 have been fully considered and are persuasive in view of the amendment. The objection of claims 7 and 13-15 has been withdrawn.

- ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

Applicants' arguments with respect to the rejection of claims 1, 7 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraph, have been fully considered and are persuasive in view of the amendment. The previous rejection of claims 1, 7 and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 has been withdrawn. However, in view of the amendment, a new rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, will be detailed as below.

- ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

Applicants' arguments with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

**Claims 7, 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.**

As in claim 7,

*the object request* at line 15 references to other items in the claim. It is unclear what item is being referenced;

*the data request* at line 21 references to other items in the claim. It is unclear what item is being referenced;

at line 14, *access criteria* of *a user* is verified to grant access to groups of data; at line 18, *an individual user* is allowed to access to groups of data. It is unclear which user is the user should be granted access to the data.

As in claim 13,

at line 17, *user access criteria* of *the user* requested an object at line 14 is verified to grant access to groups of data; at lines 21-22, *an individual user* is allowed to access to groups of data. It is unclear which user is the user should be granted access to the data;

The limitation *the data request according to the user's access criteria* at line 25 references to other items in the claim. It is unclear what item is being referenced.

As in claim 15,

at line 15, *user privilege access criteria* of *the user* requested an object at line 14 is verified to grant access to groups of data; at line 19, *an individual user* is allowed to access to groups of data. It is unclear which user is the user should be granted access to the data;

Art Unit: 2168

The limitation *the data request according to the user's access criteria* at line 23 references to other items in the claim. It is unclear what item is being referenced.

**Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP § 2172.01.**

The omitted step is: *verification of user privileges*. At line 14, only access criteria are verified. At line 20, the process is based *upon verification of user ID and user privileges*. Therefore, the claim is incomplete for omitting the step of verifying.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

**Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schneck et al. [USP 6,314,409 B2].**

Art Unit: 2168

Regarding claim 14, Schneck teaches a method for providing controlled access an object and other associated information file (Schneck, Abstract). The Schneck method comprises:

*a computer program storage device readable by a digital processing apparatus* (Schneck, FIG. 8, Hard Disk 162 and Processing Unit 154);

*a program stored on the program storage device and including instructions executable by the digital processing apparatus for controlling the apparatus to perform a method of managing documents for viewing and marking an object having varying formats without the use of any originating application of a file to view the object stored in the file* (Schneck, Col. 17, Lines 45-65);

*establishing an object in a storage location* (Schneck, Col. 33, Line 16-Col. 34, Line 18, a book, a movie, software program or a legal document as disclosed is considered as *an object*, a storage location in an inheritance feature of a digital legal document),

*including loading information into the object into separate groups having separate privilege access criteria* (Schneck, FIG. 21a, Col. 33, Lines 66-67, Col. 25, Lines 15-55, in term of a legal document, a plurality of paragraphs of legal document 224 *having separate privilege access criteria*);

*storing the object, the object comprising distinguishable groups of data* (Schneck, Col. 33, Lines 66-67, FIG. 21b, Col. 34, Lines 4-7, in term of a legal document, a plurality of paragraphs of legal document 224 is considered as *distinguishable groups of data* of the *object*. The legal document is stored in data structure as in FIG. 21b);

*identifying a user to have access to the object* (Schneck, Col. 15, Lines 30-35);

*establishing access criteria that define the scope of access of the object for the user* (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 15-50);

*receiving an object request by a user* (Col. 17, Lines 45-52);

*verifying the user's user access criteria* (Schneck, Col. 18, Lines 47-48);

*transmitting a redacted object to a user, wherein the redacted object is a redacted document that contains the groups of information to which the user has access to and confidential text that is blocked out* (Schneck, Col. 33, Line 66-Col. 34, Line 7).

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

**Claim 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schneck et al. [USP 6,314,409 B2] in view of Sadovsky [USP 5,689,638].**

Regarding claim 1, Schneck teaches a system and method for providing controlled access an object and other associated information file (Schneck, Abstract). The Schneck system and method comprises:

Art Unit: 2168

*means for establishing an object* (Schneck, Col. 33, Line 16-Col. 34, Line 18, a book, a movie, software program or a legal document as disclosed is considered as *an object*),

*the object comprising distinguishable groups of data* (Schneck, FIG. 21a, Col. 33, Lines 66-67, in term of a legal document, a plurality of paragraphs of legal document 224 is considered as *distinguishable groups of data* of the *object*),

*each group of data having associated access criteria for access to the groups of data* (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 15-55);

*a database for storing the object and associated information* (Schneck, FIG. 21b, Col. 34, Lines 4-7, in term of a legal document, data structure as in FIG. 21b is consider as *a database*);

*means for establishing access criteria* (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 15-50),

*wherein each group of data has an associated user privilege for identifying separate groups of information to which user may have access to the groups of data* (In term of a legal document, different portions, e.g., paragraphs, of the document have different access criteria (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 52-58), which include *associated user privilege*, e.g., number of read accesses, size of read access, intensity of access... (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 32-50), and the purpose is *for identifying separate groups of information to which user may have access to the groups of data*, e.g., a user is allowed to access certain data a specified number of time... (Schneck, Col. 31-Lines 1-9); and

*setting a user's ID* (Schneck, Col. 32, Lines 30-42, user name and password list) *including defining which users are allowed to access the object and associated information* (Schneck, Col. 31, Lines 7-9) *and associated user privileges* (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 16-50);

*a central processing unit (CPU) for controlling the access to the database in accordance with the access criteria* (Schneck, Col. 15, Lines 41-43);

*a main memory for storing software code for controlling the operation of the CPU* (Schneck, Col. 15, Lines 45-49);

*access application code, stored in the memory and executable by the CPU, the application code being responsive to the user ID and user access criteria associated with the groups of data contained within an object and to predetermined privileges for allowing controlled access to individual groups of data contained within the object by an individual user according to the user's access privileges (Schneck, Col. 15, Lines 30-40);*

*thereby transmitting a redacted object to a user, wherein the redacted object is a redacted document that contains the groups of information to which the user has access to and confidential text that is blocked out (Schneck, Col. 33, Line 66-Col. 34, Line 7).*

The missing in Schneck teaching is *a cache memory for storing user ID's.*

However, cache is a conventional memory and frequently used data are stored in cache, each time the processor references an address in memory, cache is checked first for quick access. Sadovsky discloses the technique of storing authentication data, e.g., user name and password in cache for quick access (Sadovsky, Abstract).

It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to store user ID as disclosed by Schneck in cache, and by storing authentication data in cache, the verifying process will be faster.

Regarding claim 2, Schneck and Sadovsky, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Schneck further discloses *access includes the ability of a user to read the contents of a requested object (Schneck, Col. 5, Lines 33-35).*

Regarding claim 3, Schneck and Sadovsky, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claim 2, Schneck further disclose *the access includes the ability to modify the contents of the requested object (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 30-31).*

Art Unit: 2168

Regarding claim 4, Schneck and Sadovsky, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claim 3, Schneck further discloses *the ability to modify includes the ability to delete information contained in the requested object* (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 30-31).

Regarding claim 5, Schneck and Sadovsky, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claim 3, Schneck further discloses *the ability to modify includes the ability to add data to the requested object* (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 30-31).

**Claim 7, 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schneck et al. [USP 6,314,409 B2] in view of Hayes et al. [WO 95/14266] and Sadovsky [USP 5,689,638].**

Regarding claim 7, Schneck teaches a method for providing controlled access an object and other associated information file (Schneck, Abstract). The Schneck method comprises:

*establishing an object* (Schneck, Col. 33, Line 16-Col. 34, Line 18, a book, a movie , software program or a legal document as disclosed is considered as *an object*),

*including loading information into the object into separate groups having separate privilege access criteria* (Schneck, FIG. 21a, Col. 33, Lines 66-67, Col. 25, Lines 15-55, in term of a legal document, a plurality of paragraphs of legal document 224 *having separate privilege access criteria*);

*storing the object, the object comprising distinguishable groups of data* (Schneck, Col. 33, Lines 66-67, FIG. 21b, Col. 34, Lines 4-7, in term of a legal document, a plurality of paragraphs of

Art Unit: 2168

legal document 224 is considered as *distinguishable groups of data* of the *object*. The legal document is stored in data structure as in FIG. 21b);

*establishing access criteria* (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 15-50),

*wherein each group of data has an associated access criteria for access to the groups of data*

(In term of a legal document, different portions, e.g., paragraphs, of the document have different access criteria (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 52-58), which include *associated access criteria*, e.g., number of read accesses, size of read access, intensity of access...

(Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 32-50), and the purpose is *for access to the groups of data*, e.g., a user is allowed to access certain data a specified number of time... (Schneck, Col. 31-Lines 1-9), and

*setting a user's ID* (Schneck, Col. 32, Lines 30-42, user name and password list) *including defining which users are allowed to access the object and associated information* (Schneck, Col. 31, Lines 7-9) *and associated user privileges* (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 16-50);

*controlling the access to the database using a central processing unit (CPU) according to the access criteria* (Schneck, Col. 15, Lines 41-43);

*storing software code for controlling the operation of the CPU in memory* (Schneck, Col. 15, Lines 30-40);

*verifying a user's access criteria* (Schneck, Col. 18, Lines 47-48);

*identifying the groups of data to which the user has access and privileges with respect thereto thereby allowing controlled access to individual groups of data contained within the object by an individual user according to the user's privileges in response to the access criteria associated with the groups of data contained within an object and to predetermined privileges upon verification of user ID and user privileges and retrieving the data requested according to the user's access criteria* (Col. 18, Lines 56-58, Col. 24, Lines 52-65);

Art Unit: 2168

*transmitting a redacted object to the user, wherein the redacted object is a redacted document that contains the groups of information to which the user has access to and confidential text that is blocked out* (Schneck, Col. 33, Line 66-Col. 34, Line 7).

The missing in Schneck teaching is the claimed limitation *extracting the user's user identification from the object request* that included in verifying process, *verifying first in cache memory the user's user identification*.

Hayes teaches the steps of *extracting the user's user identification from the object request* (Hayes, FIG. 1).

Sadovsky teaches the step of *verifying first in cache memory the user's user identification* (Sadovsky, Col.7, Line 66-Col. 8, Line 10).

Cache is a conventional memory and frequently used data are stored in cache, each time the processor references an address in memory, cache is checked first for quick access (Computer Dictionary).

By applying the technique *extracting the user's user identification from the object request* as taught by Hayes, and the technique of *verifying first in cache memory the user's user identification* as taught by Sadovsky, the processing time of verifying user name and password will be improved significantly<sup>1</sup>.

Regarding claim 13, Schneck teaches a method for providing controlled access an object and other associated information file (Schneck, Abstract). The Schneck method comprises:

---

<sup>1</sup> The steps of extracting and verifying user identification do not relate to the process of identifying and retrieving data. Examiner respectfully suggested applicants to amend the steps of identifying and retrieving to indicate these two steps are based on the results of extracting and verifying.

Art Unit: 2168

*establishing an object in a storage location* (Schneck, Col. 33, Line 16-Col. 34, Line 18, a book, a movie, software program or a legal document as disclosed is considered as *an object, a storage location* in an inheritance feature of a digital legal document),

*including loading information into the object into separate groups having separate access criteria* (Schneck, FIG. 21a, Col. 33, Lines 66-67, Col. 25, Lines 15-55, in term of a legal document, a plurality of paragraphs of legal document 224 *having separate privilege access criteria*);

*storing the object, the object comprising distinguishable groups of data* (Schneck, Col. 33, Lines 66-67, FIG. 21b, Col. 34, Lines 4-7, in term of a legal document, a plurality of paragraphs of legal document 224 is considered as *distinguishable groups of data* of the *object*. The legal document is stored in data structure as in FIG. 21b);

*identifying a user to have access to the object* (Schneck, Col. 15, Lines 30-35);

*establishing access criteria that define the scope of access of the object for the user* (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 15-50),

*whereby each group of data has an associated user privilege that define the scope of access of the object for the user* (In term of a legal document, different portions, e.g., paragraphs, of the document have different access criteria (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 52-58), which include *associated access criteria*, e.g., number of read accesses, size of read access, intensity of access... (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 32-50), and the purpose is *for access to the groups of data*, e.g., a user is allowed to access certain data a specified number of time... (Schneck, Col. 31-Lines 1-9;

*identifying separate groups of information to which the user may have access criteria for access to the groups of data* (Schneck, Col. 18, Lines 22-59)

Art Unit: 2168

*setting a user's ID* (Schneck, Col. 32, Lines 30-42, user name and password list) *including defining which users are allowed to access the object and associated information* (Schneck, Col. 31, Lines 7-9) *and associated user privileges* (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 16-50);

*receiving an object request by a user* (Col. 17, Lines 45-52);

*verifying the user's user access criteria* (Schneck, Col. 18, Lines 47-48);

*identifying the groups of data to which the user has access and privileges with respect thereto thereby allowing controlled access to individual groups of data contained within the object by an individual user according to the user's privileges in response to the access criteria associated with the groups of data contained within an object and to predetermined privileges upon verification of user ID and user privileges and retrieving the data requested according to the user's access criteria* (Col. 18, Lines 56-58, Col. 24, Lines 52-65);

*transmitting a redacted document according to the user's user access criteria including sending an electronic object to the user that contains the groups of information to which the user has access to and confidential text that is blocked out* (Schneck, Col. 33, Line 66-Col. 34, Line 7).

The missing in Schneck teaching is the claimed limitation *extracting the user's user identification from the object request* that included in verifying process, *verifying first in cache memory the user's user identification*.

Hayes teaches the steps of *extracting the user's user identification from the object request* (Hayes, FIG. 1).

Sadovsky teaches the step of *verifying first in cache memory the user's user identification* (Sadovsky, Col. 7, Line 66-Col. 8, Line 10).

Cache is a conventional memory and frequently used data are stored in cache, each time the processor references an address in memory, cache is checked first for quick access (Computer Dictionary).

By applying the technique *extracting the user's user identification from the object request* as taught by Hayes, and the technique of *verifying first in cache memory the user's user identification* as

Art Unit: 2168

taught by Sadosky, the processing time of verifying user name and password will be improved significantly<sup>2</sup>.

Regarding claim 15, Schneck teaches a method for providing controlled access an object and other associated information file (Schneck, Abstract). The Schneck method comprises:

*establishing an object in a storage location* (Schneck, Col. 33, Line 16-Col. 34, Line 18, a book, a movie , software program or a legal document as disclosed is considered as *an object, a storage location* in an inheritance feature of a digital legal document),

*including loading information into the object into separate groups having separate privilege access criteria* (Schneck, FIG. 21a, Col. 33, Lines 66-67, Col. 25, Lines 15-55, in term of a legal document, a plurality of paragraphs of legal document 224 *having separate privilege access criteria*);

*storing the object, the object comprising distinguishable groups of data* (Schneck, Col. 33, Lines 66-67, FIG. 21b, Col. 34, Lines 4-7, in term of a legal document, a plurality of paragraphs of legal document 224 is considered as *distinguishable groups of data* of the *object*. The legal document is stored in data structure as in FIG. 21b);

*identifying a user to have access to the object* (Schneck, Col. 15, Lines 30-35);

*establishing privilege access criteria* (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 15-50), *wherein each group of data has an associated user privilege that define the scope of access of the object for the user* (In term of a legal document, different portions, e.g., paragraphs, of the document have different access criteria (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 52-58), which include *associated access criteria*, e.g., number of read accesses, size of read access, intensity of access... (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 32-50), and the

---

<sup>2</sup> Please see footnote 1.

Art Unit: 2168

purpose is *for access to the groups of data*, e.g., a user is allowed to access certain data a specified number of time... (Schneck, Col. 31-Lines 1-9;

*setting a user's ID* (Schneck, Col. 32, Lines 30-42, user name and password list) *including defining which users are allowed to access the object and associated information* (Schneck, Col. 31, Lines 7-9) *and user privileges* (Schneck, Col. 25, Lines 16-50);

*receiving an object request by a user* (Col. 17, Lines 45-52);

*verifying the user's user access criteria* (Schneck, Col. 18, Lines 47-48);

*identifying the groups of data to which the user has access and privileges with respect thereto thereby allowing controlled access to individual groups of data contained within the object by an individual user according to the user's privileges in response to the access criteria associated with the groups of data contained within an object and to predetermined privileges upon verification of user ID and user privileges, searching in main memory and retrieving the data requested according to the user's access criteria* (Col. 18, Lines 56-58, Col. 24, Lines 52-65);

*transmitting a redacted object to the user, wherein the redacted object is a redacted document that contains the groups of information to which the user has access to and confidential text that is blocked out* (Schneck, Col. 33, Line 66-Col. 34, Line 7).

The missing in Schneck teaching is the steps of *extracting the user's user identification from the object request* that included in verifying process, *verifying first in cache memory the user's user identification*, and *searching first in cache* for retrieving the data requested.

Hayes teaches the steps of *extracting the user's user identification from the object request* (Hayes, FIG. 1).

Sadovsky teaches the step of *verifying first in cache memory the user's user identification* (Sadovsky, Col. 7, Line 66-Col. 8, Line 10).

Cache is a conventional memory and frequently used data are stored in cache, each time the processor references an address in memory, cache is checked first for quick access (Computer Dictionary).

By applying the technique *extracting the user's user identification from the object request* of as taught by Hayes, a user can get access to a portion of legal document, by combining user identification with a requested object.

By including a conventional cache for *searching first in cache* for retrieving the data requested, and the technique of *verifying first in cache memory the user's user identification* as taught by Sadovsky, the processing time of retrieving data will be improved significantly<sup>3</sup>.

**Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schneck et al. [USP 6,314,409 B2] and Sadovsky [USP 5,689,638] as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Mukherjee et al. [USP 5,317,729].**

Regarding claim 6, Schneck and Sadovsky, in combination, teach all of the claimed subject matter as discussed above with respect to claim 1, but do not teach *the access is determined by a business relationship to produce products and defined by the host according to the need of information in a product chain*. Mukherjee teach a method of controlling access to a database and further discloses the claimed *the access is determined by a business relationship to produce products and defined by the host according to the need of information in a product chain* (FIG. 3 and 4). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the control access to a business relationship in order to control access to a Bill of Material in a database.

---

<sup>3</sup> Please see footnote 1.

**Conclusion**

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

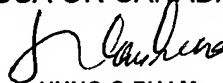
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUNG Q. PHAM whose telephone number is 571-272-4040. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TIM T. VO can be reached on 571-272-3642. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you

Art Unit: 2168

would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



HUNG Q PHAM

Examiner

Art Unit 2168

July 20, 2006



TIM VO

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100